

SOME BARK AND AMBROSIA BEETLES FROM THE
TRES MARIA ISLANDS, MEXICO. No. 143. CONTRIBUTION
TO THE MORPHOLOGY AND SYSTEMATICS
OF THE SCOLYTOIDEA.

(Coleoptera: Scolytoidea)

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Mr. Hugh B. Leech of the California Academy of Sciences has sent me again a very interesting collection of bark and ambrosia beetles from various parts of America, amongst them a small batch from the Tres Maria Islands on the west coast of Mexico. As no Scolytidae have been recorded from these small islands so far I thought it worth while to deal with them as soon as possible.

The collection contains two known Scolytidae, two known Platypodidae, a new Scolytid genus, *Xylochilus*, and a new species of the genus *Hylocurus* Eichhoff. The records of the known species are the following:

Problechilus striatus Eggers. Maria Madre Island, Arroyo Hondo, May 17, 1925, ex *Ficus* sp., H. H. Keifer.

Xyleborus volvulus Fabricius. Maria Madre Island, Arroyo Hondo, May 17, 1925 and the same island, village, May 16, 1925, H. H. Keifer.

Platypus konincki Chapuis. Maria Madre Island, May 17, 1925 and Magdalena Island, May 20, 1925, H. H. Keifer.

These specimens are somewhat smaller than the types according to Chapuis (6.25 against 5.0 mm.) but I have in my collection exactly similar specimens from São Paulo in Brazil and probably this difference in size has something to do with the altitude from which the specimens come. *Platypus exaratus* Blandford a very closely related species has been described from Guatemala and I am not quite sure if this species really is different from the Chapuis *Platypus konincki*.

Platypus pulchellus Chapuis. Maria Madre Island, village, May 16, 1925, H. H. Keifer.

The only specimen is also somewhat smaller than my specimens from Costa Rica.

***Xylochilus* new genus**

Body cylindrical and coarsely sculptured as in *Cyrtogenius* Strohmeier and certain species of *Hexacolus* Eichhoff, but the fore coxae nearly touching each other. Antennae with the funicle four-jointed, the club consisting of three segments separated from each other by interrupted septa as

in the genus *Pityophthorus* Eichhoff. Eyes long oval, feebly emarginate in front, tibia widened distally, tarsi cylindrical.

The new genus should be placed in the Crypturgini but its position within this group is rather unique on account of the shape of the antennal club.

Type of the genus: *Xylochilus insularis* Schedl, new species.

Xylochilus insularis Schedl, new species

Reddish brown, 1.9 mm long, 2.4 times as long as wide.

Front plano-convex, densely punctured, pubescence inconspicuous. *Pronotum* somewhat longer than wide (25:23), widest distinctly behind the middle, postero-lateral angles strongly rounded, sides feebly arcuate to subparallel on the basal half, arcuately narrowed in front, the subapical constriction merely indicated, anterior margin broadly rounded and armed with a series of extremely low and subequal asperations; summit short

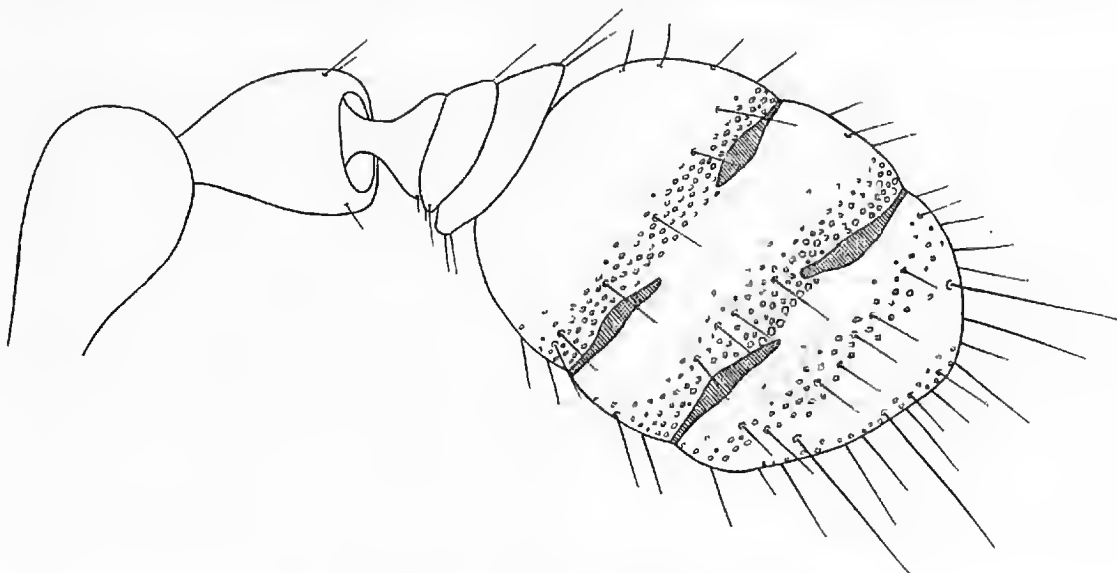


Fig. 1. Antenna of *Xylochilus insularis*.

behind the middle, anterior area obliquely convex, densely and finely asperate, these asperities gradually changing into a granulate-punctate sculpture on the basal area, pubescence extremely short, inconspicuous. Scutellum large, shining, impunctate. *Elytra* as wide and 1.2 times as long as the pronotum, sides parallel on the basal three-fifths, apex broadly rounded when viewed from above, declivity short, steeply convex; disc coarsely striato-punctate, the large punctures closely placed, the interstices very narrow, rather coarsely sculptured, each bearing a row of medium long erect bristles; declivity with the suture feebly elevated, the second interstices feebly impressed, the striae punctures smaller than on the disc, the punctures of the interstices partly replaced by small granules, the pubescence not much different than on the disc.

Holotype, male, MARIA MADRE ISLAND, ARROYO HONDO, May 17, 1925 (H. H. Keifer) in the California Academy of Sciences; *paratypes* from the type locality and Magdalena Island, May 20,

1925 (H. H. Keifer) in the collections of C.A.S. and Schedl.

The female has the front feebly impressed below, the punctuation much finer, the pubescence longer and more conspicuous, the pronotum more gradually narrowed from the base to the apex and the punctuation of the elytral declivity distinctly coarser.

Hylocurus tresmariae Schedl, new species

Female.—Reddish brown when mature, 1.34 to 1.46 mm. long, 2.5 times as long as wide. One of the smallest species of the genus as far as Central America is concerned, with long and fine pubescence on the underside. *Front* broadly convex, impressed on a rather small area below, impression shining, polished, with a few punctures towards the outer margins, the convex portion silky opaque, minutely scratched, finely punctured. Antennal scape clubshaped, with rather long fine hairs. *Pronotum* about as long as wide, postero-lateral angles rectangular, feebly rounded, sides parallel on the basal two fifths, strongly and obliquely narrowed in front, subapical constriction hardly noticeable, anterior margin rather narrowly rounded; summit high, in the middle, anterior area obliquely convex, finely and not very densely asperate, finely granulo-punctate, pubescence inconspicuous. Scutellum large, shining, impunctate. *Elytra* feebly wider and 1.5 times as long as the pronotum, of the usual shape, cylindrical to well behind the middle, apex strongly acuminate, declivity short and steeply convex; disc with rows of medium sized but deep punctures in hardly impressed lines, interstices rather narrow, each with a row of minute hardly visible punctures which bear fine slender and erect scalelike hairs; declivity with the interstitial bristles becoming distinctly spatulate, the striae impressed, the striae punctures much more closely placed, the interstices narrowly elevated and the interspaces replaced by regularly arranged granules.

Male.—Rather similar to the female but distinctly stouter, the front more widely and deeply concave and the hairs of the antennal scape more numerous and longer.

Holotype, female, TRES MARIA ISLANDS, MARIA MADRE, VILLAGE, May 15, 1925 (H. H. Keifer) in the California Academy of Sciences, *paratypes* in the collections of C.A.S. and Schedl.

FAUNA AETHIOPICA VIII. 144. CONTRIBUTION TO THE
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Mr. Borys Malkin has collected some Scolytidae and Platypodidae in Angola, in the British Cameroons and in Nigeria